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DEPARTMENT FOR EUR/NCE AND PRM/ECA

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TAGS: UNGA PHUM HU

SUBJECT: HUNGARY SUPPORTS CONTINUED EU HUMAN RIGHTS ACTION  
ON CUBA

REF: SECSTATE 147620

Classified By: Economic Officer John McGuire for reasons 1.5(b) and (d)

(C) Ministry of Foreign Affairs Americas desk deputy Norbert Konkoly told us in a November 7 meeting that Hungary is "largely of one mind with the U.S." on Cuba policy. Based upon his November 6 consultations in Brussels with EU counterparts, he underscored that the EU strongly welcomes the consultative approach the U.S. has adopted going forward.

The EU consultative process, according to Konkoly, is still in its early stages, and for this reason, he could offer no specific response to reftel points. Despite this, he reflected that continued EU-Cuba dialogue will remain valuable in any case. Cuba director Miklos Deak, who has previously visited Guantanamo, will make his first visit to Havana next week, as a courier to the Hungarian embassy there. In light of continuing Cuban press attention to the 28 Cuban refugees that Hungary is resettling, Deak said he was prepared to be viewed as a "state enemy" during his trip.

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